

REMARKS**Summary of Amendments, support, and status of claims**

Claims 1-28 have been rejected.

Claim 1 has been amended for greater clarity. Support for "coating" is found in application paragraph 00035. Support for "sodium acrylate" etc. is found in application claim 5. Support for "low viscosity" is found in application paragraph 00026. Support for "to pull the nano-particle dispersion into or onto the microstructured object" is found in application paragraph 00026.

Claim 5 has been canceled to avoid redundancy.

Claims 1-4 and 6-28 remain pending.

I. Claim Rejections, 35 USC §103

Claims 1-28 stand rejected solely under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Glatkowski et al, US Patent Number Publication no.: US 2004/0071949, published April 15, 2004, filed July 24, 2002 in view of Asakawa, US Patent Publication no.: US 2003/0222048, published December 4, 2003, filed January 22, 2003. This rejection is traversed but is submitted to be obviated by the present amendment.

Claim 1 as amended and its dependent claims distinguishes the combined disclosures by requiring that the coating be carried out with a dispersion comprising "a carrier liquid of low viscosity" and further comprising an acrylate selected "from the group consisting of a sodium acrylate, a potassium acrylate, and a calcium acrylate". These combined features provide the dispersion with stability (application paragraph 00046) while retaining the ability to efficiently "wick" into the substrate and adhere. Claim 1 as amended additionally now further

emphasizes this difference in result by the recitation of "to pull the nano-particle dispersion into or onto the microstructured object."

Glatkowski et al. does not disclose "acrylates" at all, and the related materials which are disclosed, such as "acrylics" are necessarily polymeric resins because the objective of Glatkowski is to produce a conformal coating which comprises an insulating layer and a conductive layer. (Abstract). Glatkowski applies the resins by dipping, brushing, spray painting, etc. followed by curing. (paragraphs 0053-0059). It is submitted that the technique would fail to efficiently preserve an underlying microstructure, due to the high viscosity of the applied resins. The acrylates specified in claim 1 as amended behave more like water soluble salts and are applied in combination with the low viscosity carrier. The combined features of the dispersion enable the dispersion to readily penetrate the microstructured object in a way that preserves the underlying structure and there is no suggestion of using them in the disclosure of Glatkowski. Asakawa et al., by its silence on this point, cannot cure these deficiencies. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is therefore requested.

Conclusion

Reconsideration of this Application with the amended claims in view of the above remarks is respectfully requested.

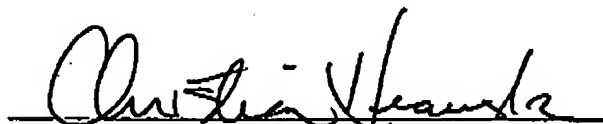
Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. Casperson is hereby granted an associate power of attorney for the purposes of filing this document.



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